3. Shri Amarsinh Chaudhary, Chief Minister of Gujarat.

Besides, various undertakings/corporations/autonomous bodies etc. also depute their employees abroad as representatives of the State Government concerned for attracting NRI investment in their respective States. The foreign exchange expenditure is met by the Indian Embassies/Missions abroad in the case of State/U.T. Government officials and in the case of officials of Government Undertakings, the foreign exchange is released directly by the RBI as per approved scale.

(e) Though it would be difficult to establish direct correlation between the foreign visits and the results achieved, it can, in general, be said that these visits have been useful and encouraging. Many NRIs have shown keen interest to participate in the industrial development of this country and some of them have already submitted specific proposals.

Setting up of more spinning Mills in Punjab

1963. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of spinning and composite textile mills in the country and how many of them are located in Punjab;

(b) whether in view of the fact that Punjab is producing one sixth of the country's cotton, there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up more spinning mills in the State; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Number of spinning and composite Cotton Mills in the country is 1014 and 20 out of them are located in Punjab.

(b) and (c) The Central Government have no proposal at present for setting up of any spinning or composite textile mill in Punjab. However, according to the Textile Policy of June, 1985, capacity expansion by the existing units and setting up of new units is permitted, subject to general industrial policies including the provisions of the MRTP Act and FERA.

Change in the Structure of interest Rates of Banks

1964. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to change the structure of interest rates of banks as per the recommendations of Dr. Sukhamoy Chakravarthy report; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Working Group on Gold Control Policy

1965. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the two working groups appointed by Government to examine the issue of gold control policy and also to review the working of the gold control machinery have submitted their reports; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) if not, by when these groups are likely to submit their report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The terms of Working Group on Gold Policy and Gold Control Machinery etc. have been extended upto 30.9.1986 and 31.12.1986 respectively, by which time it is likely that they would submit their reports.

Trade Deficit

1966. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the trade deficit of the country in the financial year 1985-86 and upto the end of July, 1986; and

(b) what are the proposals of Government to meet the trade deficit in the Budget of the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) On the basis of provisional figures, released by Ministry of Commerce, the trade deficit amounted to Rs. 7951 crores during 1985-86. The corresponding information for the current financial year is not available as yet.

(b) A variety of measures have been adopted by Government to boost exports and enhance domestic production of importables. These measures, *inter alia*, include abolition of export duty on some items, reduction in import duty on number of items of raw materials, components, machinery and equipment for export-potential industrial, steps to boost the indigeneous production of edible oils, a new Cash Compensatory Scheme since 1.7.1986 and reduction in the rate of interest on credit for exports etc.

Provision of Cheap Textile Products for Poor People

1967. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to provide cheap textile products to the poor people who are living below poverty line;

(b) what is the minimum price of the textile products which can be used by the common people; and

(c) whether the National Textile Corporation proposes to undertake any market study for ascertaining the types of textile products required by the people living in different parts of the country; if so, what are details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Controlled cloth scheme to provide cheap textile products for the poor people, is already in operation, in the country. The total quantum of controlled cloth p roduction is at present being shared by National Textile Corporation and the Handloom Sector.

(b) The minimum consumer prices of main varieties of controlled cloth produced by NTC and meant for the weaker section of the society are as under:

(In Rs.)

Variety	Price per sq. meter.
Dhoty/Saree:	
Grey dhoty	2·80
Bleached dhoty . . .	3·87
Bleached Saree . . .	3·28